GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1968
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2005
PRODUCT PATENT
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there have been any system of patenting various Indian goods/products including agricultural products, Ayurvedic medicines and traditional knowledge in foreign countries and cancelling such patents by India;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, country-wise; (

(c) Whether the Government has developed digital Data Base of Indian Ayurvedic medicines and traditional knowledge;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the public awareness activities taken by the Government about the utility of patent laws?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) and (b): Patents laws have territorial effect. Patents are private rights, which are normally challenged by the person(s) whose interests are affected/ jeopardized in accordance with the patent laws of the country concerned. Data on patents granted worldwide is not maintained.

(c) and (d): Yes Sir. Government has developed a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library of 65,000 Ayurveda and Unani classical formulations in five international languages, i.e., English, German, French, Japanese and Spanish.

(e) The public awareness activities undertaken by the Government about the utility of patent laws include, conducting of National, international seminars; interactive meetings with different representative associations of industry, pharmaceutical sector, scientific community, legal professionals, other stakeholders; arranging guest lectures in Universities and other academic institutions; giving wide publicity on proposals for amendment of rules and regulations through press and the internet, etc.